

REMARKS

Claims 13-30 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 13-22 are withdrawn. Claims 23-30 are rejected. Claim 23 has been amended. Claim 30 has been canceled.

Applicants' representative conducted a telephonic interview with the Examiner on January 9, 2009 to discuss the present claims in light of the Amendment filed May 30, 2007 and considered pursuant to Applicants' Request for Continued Examination filed on December 28, 2007.

As a result of the interview, the Examiner agreed to consider a Supplemental Amendment, including the amendments to the claims discussed during the interview (see below) prior to issuing a next Office Action on the merits. The Examiner indicated that Applicant's previous amendment to claim 23 is supported by the specification and that new claim 30 is likewise supported. The Examiner indicated further that amendment of the claims to recite "consisting of" rather than "consisting essentially of" would be sufficient to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) based *Fleischmann et al.*

As a preliminary matter, Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for his time and courtesy in discussing the Applicants' claims.

Pursuant to the Examiner's comments, Applicants have amended claim 23 to recite "consisting of" rather than "consisting essentially of". As discussed, since the amendment to claim 23 would render claim 29 identical in scope to claim 30, claim 30 has been canceled.

Applicants have also filed concurrently herewith, a substitute specification in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.52.

No new matter has been introduced and entry of the amendment is hereby respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Renita S. Rathinam/

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Renita S. Rathinam
Registration No. 53,502

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 22, 2008